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USSR LITERARY PURGE CONTINUESCHITA THEATER CRITICS EXPOSED -- Zabaykal'skiy Rabochiy, No 32,
16 Feb 49

A conference was called by the Propaganda Division of the Chita Oblast Committee VKP(b) and the editors of the newspaper Zabaykal'skiy Rabochiy, to discuss the article in Pravda, "Concerning One Antipatriotic Group of Theater Critics." The report by Sinyukov, editor of Zabaykal'skiy Rabochiy, occasioned a lively discussion of this problem. Party workers, artists, teachers, and workers of the press made accurate appraisals of the pernicious activity of this antipatriotic group. Svirskiy stated that this group has had a harmful influence even among several theater workers.

The conferees criticized the depravity of V. Gol'tsberg, former producer and chief of the literary section of the oblast theater, who found fault with the best Soviet plays and declined to produce them. Grunin, chief of the Propaganda and Agitation Division of the Chita Oblast Committee VKP(b), reported that the antipatriotic group of critics (Yuzovskiy, Gurvich, Borschchagovskiy, and others), in criticizing the work of Soviet playwrights, took a stand inimical to Soviet activity and the Lenin-Stalin Party line, and that Soviet theater criticism would be purified by the exposing of this group.

Certain delegates pointed out that the theater criticism in Zabaykal'skiy Rabochiy has not always been on a sufficiently high level and that the paper has published a number of faulty reviews. Writer B. Kostyukovskiy criticized the newspaper's review of the play Idushchiye Vpered which mentioned more of the play's faults than the faults in the work of the producer and actors. Ageyev, Kovrizhnykh, Khavkin, Volynskaya, and Yakovlev also spoke at the conference and urged workers of the press to give more profound discussions of the creative work of the theater and literature.

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COSMOPOLITANISM IN KAZAKH UNIVERSITY -- Kazakhstanskaya Pravda,
No 53, 16 Mar 49

The Department of General Literature of the Philological Faculty of Kazakh State University imeni S. M. Kirov has for a long time been a hotbed of bourgeois cosmopolitanism. The passportless wanderers who have established themselves in the University imbue the students with admiration of the capitalist West, slander Russian literature, and preach antipatriotic esthetics. The leader of this group is Docent V. M. Blyumenfel'd, who proclaims these dangerous views in lectures and in print.

Blyumenfel'd's article "Tragedy" in Bol'shaya Sovetskaya Entsiklopediya, Volume LIV, is clearly an ideological diversion. Tolstoy is mentioned only in passing. However, any number of foreigners are praised. And besides this, in another article Blyumenfel'd dared to insult Pushkin. In his lectures, Blyumenfel'd preaches idealism and cosmopolitan perversion, praising Hegel, Figaro, and Stendhal's heroes.

One of Blyumenfel'd's supporters in the University is Ye. Ya. Rubinova, who in general commits the same crimes, praising the cynicism and pessimism of the West. Other teachers of cosmopolitanism are Madzigon, Veselovskaya, Malinkovskiy, Boguslavskiy, Zhovtis, and Prof R. A. Fridman, head of the Department of General Literature.

MOLDAVIAN PRESS GUILTY OF COSMOPOLITANISM -- Sovetskaya Moldaviya,
No 55, 19 Mar 49

Despite the 22 November 1948 decree of TsK KP(b) Moldavia on the poor quality of literary criticism in the Moldavian press, there still survive vestiges of cosmopolitanism in the critical writings of a number of Moldavian authors.

The magazine Oktombriye (October), organ of the Moldavian Writers' Union, is operated on a low ideological and artistic level. Many critical articles appearing in it are unprincipled, biased, and fawning. Especially harmful are the articles by Portnoy. Other writers guilty of cosmopolitanism are Z. Sepunaru and V. Ruzhina, who, as editors of Oktombriye, have also been in error in allowing the publication of articles by I. Al'tman.

The editorial board of the newspaper Sovetskaya Moldaviya has allotted space to harmful articles.

SHTEYN'S PLAY PRODUCED IN MAGADAN THEATER -- Tikhookeanskaya Zvezda, No 47, 26 Feb 49

A. Shteyn's play Zakon chesti (Law of Honor), produced by Bender'skiy, art director of the Magadan Theater imeni Gor'kiiy, was presented at that theater. The play is being received favorably by residents in the Kolyma area. Groups for attending the performance are being organized.

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